

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00

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ARA/LA/CAR:THEAVNER

ARA:WLUERS

EA:PRMAYHEW

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LILONGWE

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

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AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS
AMEMBASSY RANGOON
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY VALLETTA
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY FREETOWN
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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TAGS: PFOR, PORG, UN, US

SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: AIDES-MEMOIRE ON KOREA AND
PUERTO RICO

REF: STATE 178439

1. FOLLOWING PARAS CONTAIN AIDES-MEMOIRE ON KOREA AND PUERTO RICO. KOREAN AIDE-MEMOIRE SHOULD BE USED IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE 18150' AND FOLLOWING LIMITATIONS. PUERTO RICO AIDE-MEMOIRE MAY BE PRESENTED AT POSTS' DISCRETION EXCEPT AS PER PARA 3 BELOW.

2. FOR ACCRA, DAMASCUS, MAPUTO, MOGADISCIO, TRIPOLI, VALLETTA. YOU SHOULD NOT REPEAT NOT PRESENT AIDE-MEMOIRE ON KOREA IN LIGHT OF HOST GOVERNMENT'S CO-SPONSORSHIP OF HOSTILE KOREA RESOLUTION IN 30TH UNGA AND ITS CONTINUING POSITION ON THE ISSUE. AIDE-MEMOIRE WILL, HOWEVER, BE USEFUL FOR PURPOSE OF ORAL PRESENTATION.

3. FOR AMMAN, COLOMBO, DAR ES SALAAM, FREETOWN, GABORONE, GEORGETOWN, KABUL, KATHMANDU, KUALA LUMPUR, LUSAKA, CAIRO, MONROVIA, PORT OF SPAIN, SINGAPORE. POSTS SHOULD NOT PRESENT EITHER AIDE-MEMOIRE; ISSUES WILL BE COVERED BY LETTER FROM SECRETARY PARA 4 REFTEL. IN LIGHT INDONESIA'S SUPPORT OF US POSITION ON PUERTO RICO AND HIGH LEVEL DISCUSSION OF THIS ISSUE DURING JUNE 29 US-INDONESIA CONSULTATIONS, JAKARTA MAY NOT WISH TO PRESENT PUERTO RICO AIDE-MEMOIRE.

PUERTO RICO

4. U.S. POLICY ON PUERTO RICO IS BASED ON COMPLETE ACCEPTANCE OF PUERTO RICO'S RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION. THE UNITED STATES CAME INTO POSSESSION OF VARIOUS NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS CENTURY, AND EACH HAS BEEN ABLE TO CHOOSE THE COURSE IT WISHED TO FOLLOW. THE PHILIPPINES CHOSE INDEPENDENCE IN 1947; HAWAII CHOSE STATEHOOD; AND PUERTO RICO CHOSE A SPECIAL COMMONWEALTH RELATIONSHIP WITH THE U.S. WHICH CONTINUES TO EVOLVE.

THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO MADE THAT CHOICE BY APPROVING
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COMMONWEALTH STATUS AND THEIR OWN CONSTITUTION IN 1952. THEY REAFFIRMED THAT CHOICE IN A STATUS REFERENDUM IN 1967, PARTICIPATED IN BY 60 PER CENT OF THE ELECTORATE, IN WHICH 60.41 PER CENT VOTED FOR COMMONWEALTH STATUS, 38.98 PER CENT VOTED FOR STATEHOOD AND 0.60 PER CENT VOTED FOR INDEPENDENCE. IT HAS BEEN THE POLICY OF THE U.S. SINCE 1953 THAT IF THE PUERTO RICAN LEGISLATURE SHOULD ADOPT A RESOLUTION IN FAVOR OF INDEPENDENCE, THEN THE PRESIDENT WOULD RECOMMEND TO THE CONGRESS THAT INDEPENDENCE BE GRANTED.

IN 1953 THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY EXPLICITLY RECOGNIZED THE SELF-GOVERNING STATUS OF PUERTO RICO AND REMOVED PUERTO RICO FROM THE LIST OF NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES BY ADOPTING RESOLUTION 748 (VIII), AND IT REAF-

FIRMED THAT DECISION IN 1971 WHEN IT REJECTED AN ATTEMPT TO INSCRIBE AN ITEM ON PUERTO RICO ON ITS AGENDA. FREE AND OPEN ELECTIONS AGAIN WILL BE HELD IN PUERTO RICO IN NOVEMBER OF THIS YEAR.

SO LONG AS THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO WISH TO CONTINUE THIS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNITED STATES, ANY DISCUSSION OF PUERTO RICO'S STATUS BY ANY INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OR BY ANY ORGAN OF THE UNITED NATIONS WOULD BE OFFENSIVE TO US AND TO THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO. PRESIDENT FORD MADE THIS POINT WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS IN JUNE WHEN HE VISITED PUERTO RICO AND SAID THAT THOSE WHO MIGHT BE INCLINED TO INTERVENE IN OUR FREELY DETERMINED RELATIONS SHOULD KNOW THAT SUCH AN ACT WOULD BE CONSIDERED INTERVENTION IN THE DOMESTIC AFFAIRS OF PUERTO RICO AND THE UNITED STATES. THE UNITED STATES IS CONFIDENT THAT NATIONS WITH WHICH IT ENJOYS FRIENDLY RELATIONS WILL UNDERSTAND THE STRONG FEELING OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ON THIS MATTER, AND HOPES THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF WILL ACTIVELY SUPPORT EFFORTS TO PREVENT THIS DOMESTIC MATTER FROM BECOMING AN INTERNATIONAL ISSUE.

KOREAN QUESTION

5. WE ARE VITALLY INTERESTED IN REDUCING TENSIONS AND IN SEEKING MORE DURABLE ARRANGEMENTS FOR PEACE ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA. WE ARE WILLING TO CONSIDER NEW IDEAS IN APPROA-
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CHING THE PROBLEM. WE COULD NOT, HOWEVER, ACCEPT ANY PROPOSAL: (1) WHICH WOULD DENY THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA THE ROLE OF A FULL PARTICIPANT IN ANY NEGOTIATIONS ON THE PENINSULA'S FUTURE--THIS WOULD BE UNFAIR AND UNREALISTIC (THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA HAS 35 MILLION PEOPLE, MORE THAN TWO-THIRDS OF THE PENINSULA'S POPULATION; AND IT HAS DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH 93 COUNTRIES); OR, (2) WHICH WOULD TERMINATE THE UNITED NATIONS COMMAND BEFORE THERE ARE NEW ARRANGEMENTS TO MAINTAIN THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT, THE SOLE LEGAL INSTRUMENT COMMITTING THE PARTIES TO MAINTAIN PEACE; OR, (3) WHICH WOULD DISRUPT THE MILITARY BALANCE WHICH HAS PRESERVED PEACE FOR 23 YEARS. OUR CONCERN ABOUT UNCONDITIONAL DISSOLUTION OF THE UN COMMAND IN KOREA IS UNDERSCORED BY RECENT STATEMENTS BY NORTH KOREA. NORTH KOREA'S VICE FOREIGN MINISTER SAID IN THE UNGA ON OCTOBER 21, 1975: "THE NATURAL RESULT IS THAT, IF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMAND IS DISSOLVED, THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT ITSELF WILL ALSO CEASE TO EXIST."

WE DO NOT, AND WE BELIEVE MOST UN MEMBERS DO NOT, WISH TO SEE THE KOREAN REUNIFICATION ISSUE BECOME AGAIN A WASTEFUL CONTROVERSY DIVERTING THE ENERGIES OF THE UNGA.

HOWEVER, IF NORTH KOREA'S SUPPORTERS BRING THE ISSUE AGAIN TO THE UNGA SUCH A CHALLENGE WOULD NOT GO UNANSWERED FROM OUR SIDE. FOR THESE REASONS AND WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE FORTHCOMING SUMMIT MEETING OF THE NON-ALIGNED AT COLOMBO, THE UNITED STATES HOPES THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF WILL EMPHASIZE IN DISCUSSIONS WITH OTHERS THAT THE BEST WAY TO ACHIEVE A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE KOREAN PROBLEM IS TO URGE BOTH SIDES TO RESUME THE NORTH-SOUTH KOREAN TALKS AS AGREED IN THE SOUTH-NORTH COMMUNIQUE OF JULY 4, 1972 (AND ENDORSED BY THE UNGA IN ITS 1973 CONSENSUS), AND TO CONVENE A CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES DIRECTLY CONCERNED AS PROPOSED BY SECRETARY KISSINGER ON SEPTEMBER 22 LAST YEAR. THAT PROPOSAL REMAINS VALID. TO EMPHASIZE OUR SERIOUSNESS, THE SECRETARY ON JULY 22 REPEATED HIS INVITATION TO THE OTHER THREE PARTIES TO ATTEND A CONFERENCE IN ORDER TO FIND WAYS TO REDUCE TENSIONS ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA. IN ADDITION, HE STATED THAT WE WOULD BE PREPARED, IF OTHER PARTIES AGREED, TO MEET THIS FALL FOR SUCH A CONFERENCE, AND TO BEGIN ARRANGEMENTS FOR IT IMMEDIATELY. HE ALSO
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STR-SSED US READINESS TO TERMINATE THE UNITED NATIONS COMMAND PROVIDED THERE IS MUTUAL AGREEMENT PERPETUATING THE ARMISTICE OR REPLACING IT WITH A MORE PERMANENT ARRANGEMENT. THESE ARE FAIR AND REALISTIC PROPOSALS; WE HOPE YOUR GOVERNMENT WILL SUPPORT THEM. ROBINSON

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